

JOHN BULL CRIES "ENOUGH"

London Newspapers Express Anxiety Over Naval Program of United States

London, Dec. 28.—Calls for the United States, Great Britain and Japan to curtail naval expenditures by mutual agreement are featured by several London newspapers today. These journals express the anxiety prevailing here since the receipt of reports of the new American naval program and say that Great Britain must do likewise.

HOMICIDES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The Number of Killings Twice That of Last Year

Columbia, Dec. 29.—The homicide rate in South Carolina for the full months was twice what it was for the year 1919, according to a statement issued today by Secretary G. Croft Williams, of the State Board of Public Welfare, based on reports for the months of September, October and November, received from twenty-nine counties of the state. The figures are furnished by the coroners. "In the twenty-nine counties reporting," says Mr. Williams, "there were twenty-two homicides in September, seventeen in October, and twenty-one in November, making sixty homicides for three months." Estimating the homicides for the whole state, from the reports received from the twenty-nine counties, "there must have been," the welfare board concludes, "about ninety-five homicides in the state during September, October and November. At this rate there were about three hundred and eighty homicides for the year. But if we take only the figures we received from the twenty-nine counties, we find that an alarming state of affairs obtains in South Carolina."

According to the reports of the bureau of vital statistics there were one hundred and eighty-three homicides in this state in 1919, and this report covered all of the counties. "It may be easily seen therefore that unless some of the citizens of our state use a little more self-control, we shall outdistance our former records," the statement of the welfare board says.

The statement from the welfare board secretary mentions certain causes for the crime situation. "There are many causes to which this high rate of homicide may be attributed," says the statement, "such as economic instability, reaction from war, and a standard of luxury that has recently been established and that many find themselves unable to reach. But the main sources of homicide are the feeling among our people that to avenge with death is the only way to satisfy one's honor and the prevalent habit of carrying pistols."

"A still more remote, yet powerful, cause of homicide is the lightness with which human life is regarded among us. If our people firmly determine to put down homicide, homicide would be banished from South Carolina. Several of the counties this year will doubtless show a larger number of homicides than the city of London records in a normal year, and London's population is about four times that of South Carolina."

THE MEMORIAL BUILDING.

As chairman of the Memorial Building for Sumter county, I wish to say that Mr. W. I. Whitehead, acting for Mr. I. C. Strauss, treasurer of this fund, reports that the canvass that was made several months ago resulted in a total subscription of \$6,651.95. Of this amount there was paid \$3,161.75. According to the instructions of Governor Cooper and former Governor Manning, this amount is being held in trust in the savings department of one of the banks, until properly called for.

Respectfully submitted,
S. H. EDMUNDS,
Chairman for Sumter County.

Verdict for Malpractice Reversed by Supreme Court

Columbia, Dec. 30.—On account of the far-reaching effect, more than ordinary interest attaches to the decision rendered by the state supreme court in a case from McCormick county, involving the liability of a physician to his patient, said to be the first case of the kind ever passed upon by the South Carolina supreme court.

Mrs. J. T. Dillashaw sued Dr. D. A. J. Bell for \$5,000 damages, alleging malpractice, in that an injury to her knee was incorrectly diagnosed and treated. In the circuit court Mrs. Dillashaw received a verdict of \$500, but the supreme court reversed the decision.

TAX NOTICE

I will attend personally or by deputy at the following named places and on the dates given for the purpose of receiving tax returns for this fiscal year 1921:

Privateer, Tuesday, Jan. 4th.
Levi Siding, Wednesday, Jan. 5th.
Weddell, Friday, Jan. 7th.
Claremont, Tuesday, Jan. 11.
Hagood, Wednesday, Jan. 12.
Rembert, Thursday, Jan. 13.
Danzell, Tuesday, Jan. 18.
Brogdon, Wednesday, Jan. 19.
Mayesville, Thursday, Jan. 20.
Pleasant Grove, Tuesday, Jan. 25.
Shiloh, Wednesday, Jan. 26.
Norwood X Roads, Thursday, Jan. 27.

Returns should be made on all personal property, poll and road tax.

R. E. WILDER,
County Auditor.

ROUND-UP OF BOOTLEGGERS

Thirty-Five Open Saloons Raided in Wisconsin Town

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Forty-eight armed prohibition agents are today enroute to Hurley, Wis., to clear the town of alleged bootleggers. The party has thirty-eight warrants, with instructions to arrest every man named.

Hurley, Wis., Dec. 28.—Fifty prohibition agents from Chicago surprised thirty-five open saloons here today. They arrested the men and seized a large quantity of liquor. The agents were armed, but there was no shooting.

FARM LABOR WAGES

Farmers of South Carolina Paid Higher Scale in 1920 Than Before

Saluda, Dec. 28.—According to report of B. E. Hare, agricultural statistician for bureau crop estimates, United States department of agriculture, farm wages in South Carolina during the year 1920 were the highest of record. Details of the report are shown below for the years 1920, 1919, 1918:

Wages per month with board: 1920, \$30.50; 1919, \$27.00; 1918, \$12.00. Without board: 1920, \$11.80; 1919, \$28.40; 1918, \$16.50.

Wages per day other than harvest: 1920, \$1.80; 1919, \$1.60; 1918, 70c. Without board: 1920, \$2.30; 1919, \$2.10; 1918, 90c.

The average wage per day for harvest work was \$2.25, with board, and \$2.75 without board, while the average wage for similar work last year was \$1.94 with board, and \$2.10 without board.

The report shows that the estimated wheat acreage in the state is 4 per cent greater, and rye acreage 3 per cent greater than last year. The estimated yield of wheat straw per acre this past season was 0.50 tons; oats 0.75 and rye 0.90.

The probable average yield of seed cotton this year is 692 lbs per acre, with an average yield of 254 pounds of lint per acre. The average price of cotton on December 1, 1920 was 14.5 cents per pound, while on the corresponding date of last year the average price was 35.7 cents per lb.

The average number of cords of wood consumed per farm in the state during the past year was 13.8 cords. The average price of four foot wood being \$4 per cord and stove length \$6 per cord.

SUMTER LOSES TO BENNING

Last night in the gymnasium of the local "Y" the Sumter Y. M. C. A. team went down before the strong basketball team from Camp Benning, by a score which doubled the score made by the local boys.

This was Sumter's second game of basketball for this season, they having played their first game in Columbia on Tuesday night. This game in no way affects Sumter's chances for the state championship of this season.

The game last night was in every way a good clean game in spite of the turn of the tide of fortune. The Camp Benning team has quite a record of a ball and can easily be classed as one of the best teams that has visited this section. They brought with them a large squad and did not fail to make frequent substitutions from their supply of material. Sumter on the other hand made no substitutions but played their original team throughout the game to the finish.

Both teams worked hard and fast but it seemed that the visiting team possibly had a little rub on the locals. The goal tossing of Cranton of the Camp team was indeed phenomenal. The basket seemed to possess a magnetic attraction for the ball whenever it left his hand going anywhere in the general direction of the basket.

The Sumter team worked hard and steady doing their best at all times. At the end of the first half the score was Camp Benning 26, Sumter 19. The big score was piled up against Sumter in the second half so that at the end of the game the score was Camp Benning 50, Sumter 25.

Camp Benning. Position Sumter
Smith Forwards Heldt
Cranton Forwards Shaw
McQuarrie Center McKnight
Parker Guards Levi
Grisswald Guards Crawford
Substitutions: Camp Bennings—
Johnston, Mullen and Rudder. Referee, Flowers; Umpire, Wilson.

The Only Safe and Sane Policy For Cotton Growers Next Year.

(Manufacturers Record, Baltimore).
The Wall Street Journal says: "By reducing cotton acreage 50 per cent the southern farmer, having lost in the decline will cut himself off from profiting by the inevitable rally." In this position the Journal is absolutely wrong, for by reducing his acreage by one half and raising his own foodstuffs the cotton grower would get more for 5,000,000 bales than for 12,000,000 bales, and would at the same time keep "his corncrib and smokehouse at home" instead of in the west.

The only safe and sane policy for southern farmers next year will be to cut cotton acreage at least one half and raise every pound of foodstuffs and feedstuffs needed. Then the 6,000,000 bales raised at half the cost of 12,000,000 bales would bring at least twice as much as would 12,000,000 bales. The farmer would thus cut his cost in half and at the same time double his income. Let such a proposition be offered on a feasible basis, legally and ethically, to any banker or manufacturer, and we would see how quick they would jump to accept it.

NEGROES TOLD TO TRY COURTS

Hearing By Census Committee Developed Excitement South Resent Hearsay Slander

Washington, Dec. 29.—Charges by representatives of the association for advancement of colored people that negroes are unlawfully prevented from voting in the south led to somewhat exciting scenes. Southern members of the committee took issue with the witnesses and Representative Bee of Texas declared that he was tired of states being insulted on the strength of hearsay evidence. One of the spectators insisted on getting into the discussion and Chairman Siegel finally told him that if he did not sit down he must leave the room. Declaring that there is nothing in the laws of the southern states discriminating against negro voters, representatives from the south suggested to the spokesmen of the association that they take their complaints of alleged discriminations against the negro to the courts rather than to congress.

WOULD CUT TO- BACCO ACREAGE

Warehousemen Warn Growers That 30 Per Cent Reduction is Too Small

Wilson, Dec. 28.—The following resolutions were passed by the North Carolina Tobacco Warehouse association on the occasion of the recent meeting here:

"Whereas, the normal supply of bright tobacco is approximately three hundred million pounds annually and whereas it is evident that there will be carried over from the 1920 crop fully 30,000,000 pounds, enough to supply the needs of the world if not a single pound is raised in 1921, and

"Whereas the interests of the warehousemen and the farmers are identical in respect to the amount of tobacco to be planted, and we can feel it our duty to give the growers the facts in our possession that they may be saved from bankruptcy which may follow the planting of even a normal crop in 1921.

"Therefore, it is resolved by the North Carolina Tobacco Warehouse association:

"1. That the proposed reduction of one-third in acreage as recommended by the Tobacco Growers' association is not in our opinion a sufficient reduction—that the reduction should be at least 50 per cent and that any amount planted in excess of one-half of the normal crop will invite disaster.

"2. That we feel it is the duty of the tobacco warehousemen to reach the tobacco growers in person and to urge upon them:

"(a) The absolute necessity of cutting their tobacco crops at least one-half—and that if they plant tobacco at all they should not plant 'Make All,' 'Big Gem' and 'Pinkie Arthur' but should confine themselves to the staple varieties which have given Eastern North Carolina its reputation in the past.

"(b) That they abandon the west as their 'smoke house and corn crib' and pledge themselves honestly to make an effort to live at home in 1921.

"3. That the tobacco warehousemen of North Carolina pledge themselves to cooperate with the Tobacco Growers' association to form committees of their strongest men who shall visit every grower and landlord in their respective territory and secure pledges to carry out the recommendations herein submitted. And that the week beginning January 3, 1921 shall be set aside for this purpose.

"N. C. Tobacco Growers' Assn.
"S. H. Sanderson, President.
"Z. H. Cozart, Secretary."

COTTON MEETING MONDAY.

The cotton acreage reduction meeting on January 3rd, at Sumter Court House, at 11 o'clock, called by the Sumter County Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the South Carolina Division of the American Cotton Association is evidently attracting widespread attention. Judging from the number of citizens who say they will attend.

A preliminary conference of one hundred farmers, bankers, merchants and other business men has been called for 12 o'clock, December 30th, at Sumter Chamber of Commerce to formulate preliminary plans to be presented to the cotton acreage reduction meeting.

It now looked like the heaviest reduction of cotton acreage ever witnessed in this county, for 1921. It is reported that all of the Sumter banks have agreed in advance of the meeting next Monday to do their full share in bringing about reduction of acreage.

The meeting of January 3rd, like the preliminary conference, will be attended by farmers and other business men of every line of business as well as by professional men.

Two hundred and fifty delegates have been appointed by the Sumter Chamber of Commerce for the cotton acreage reduction meeting, and each of these delegates, representing every township in this county, and the Pine-wood section of Charleston county recently voting to join Sumter county, have been asked to serve as committeemen to bring others to the meeting. This meeting is open to the general public.

London, Dec. 29.—A movement to place the full weight of British organized labor in support of the Irish self-determination claim began with a conference of the parliamentary labor party today.

ATTACK ON SOUTH IN CONGRESS

Agitation Renewed For Reduction of Representation in the House

Washington, Dec. 29.—The house census committee today continued its hearings on the congressional apportionment bill. Among the witnesses expected were representatives of national association for the advancement of colored people who are expected to urge the reduction of representation from the southern states on the ground of alleged refusal to allow the negroes to vote. A bill which was recently introduced in the house provides for the reduction of representatives from the southern states where it is found the enfranchisement of the negro has been denied.

PECULIAR SITUATION

Depot Agency to Be Closed Because Patrons Object to Crap-Shooting

Columbia, Dec. 29.—Request for the removal of a railroad agent, at a little station in Lee county, because he played craps and crackaloo and gave services only to "crapshooters," has been received by the South Carolina Railroad commission, being in the form of a petition signed by a score or more of citizens.

The joke in the case is in the fact that crossing the petition in the mail was a letter to the officials of the Atlantic Coast Line railway, signed by Chairman Frank Shealy, of the railroad commission, authorizing the abandonment of the depot agency at the same little town where the citizens objected to the crap-shooting agent.

"Only his pets get real service," said the complaint against the agent. "Crapshooters he serves with great interest." The petition also alleged that the agent was neglectful of the public and that often customers calling at the freight office found the agent off playing "at crackaloo or crap-shooting."

ACREAGE REDUC- TION CAMPAIGN

Meetings Will Be Held in Every County of State Monday

Columbia, Dec. 29.—The campaign to secure a heavy reduction in the cotton acreage in South Carolina will be launched next Monday, with meetings at practically every county seat in the state. These meetings have been called in the various counties by the presidents of the county branches of the South Carolina division of the American Cotton Association and every effort is being made to have a large attendance in every county.

R. C. Hamer, president of the South Carolina division of the American Cotton Association, said yesterday that reports being received at the state headquarters of the association in this city indicated that the sentiment among the farmers was such that a very heavy reduction was absolutely assured.

"We are receiving voluntary letters from farmers all over the state announcing their intention to cut their acreage in half," said Mr. Hamer. "Reports from our county chairmen indicate that the sentiment prevails in every county that this step is absolutely necessary and that farmers appear to have made up their minds to make this reduction."

"The president of each county branch of the cotton association has been requested to call a meeting at the county seat of his county for next Monday and at this meeting to launch the campaign to secure pledges to reduce the acreage. These pledges have been printed and will be mailed out this week to the various counties. We hope to secure the signature of every farmer in South Carolina to one of these. The banks will also be asked to cooperate with us in refusing financial assistance to any farmer who refuses to reduce. Merchants will be asked to assist in a similar way."

"The bankers of Marlboro county at a meeting held last week unanimously decided to give no financial assistance to any farmer not reducing his cotton acreage. Other banks over the state have indicated they will follow suit and we expect this action to be unanimous on the part of the bankers."

"The temper of the farmers is indicated in resolutions in York county recently when they asked the bankers of the county to refuse financial aid to any farmer not signing a pledge to reduce his cotton."

"The pledges that will be used by South Carolina are the same as those that will be used in every state of the cotton belt. These pledges were adopted at the recent cotton acreage reduction meeting held in Memphis, Tenn. There is one for the land owner, one for the farmer, one for the merchant and one for the banker."

D'ANNUNZIO IS DOWN AND OUT

Reign of Italian Filibuster Came to End This Morning

Fiume, Dec. 29.—A conference for arranging the final cessation of hostilities between the Italian forces and D'Annunzio's troops has been set for this morning.

D'Annunzio has relinquished his authority to the communal council of Fiume.

CONGRESS KILLED TIME TODAY

Work Suspended While Hurrah Over Joe Cannon Was Staged

Washington, Dec. 29.—The house stopped work an hour today to pay a tribute to Uncle Joe Cannon. His establishment of a new record of service in congress was the occasion of the celebration. He set the new mark yesterday, surpassing the service of Justin Smith Morrill, of Vermont, who previously held the record with forty-three years, nine months and twenty-four days in the house and senate.

TIGHTEN UP ON LIQUOR MEN

To Reduce Number of Permits For Handling Goods

Washington, Dec. 29.—Plans for reducing the number of federal permits for the handling of liquor in the next twelve months were announced today by Prohibition Commissioner Kramer who said the new issue of licenses would be held to a strict minimum in an effort to check illegal liquor sales.

The greatest reduction will be in wholesale permits under Mr. Kramer's program, but others dealers entitled to operate under the Volstead act will also be considerably affected. The commissioner said it was his intention to refuse to reissue "between 50 and 75 per cent" of the wholesale licenses now in effect.

The enforcement staff has been engaged for several months in studying the records of the 77,000-odd permit holders to ascertain who have committed overt acts under the prohibition statutes with the view of eliminating them from his list of those who may handle intoxicants next year.

The bureau has been aided in this task, Mr. Kramer said, by the failure of many to apply for new permits. This is especially true of the wholesalers, he added. The number who desire renewals of retail licenses, however, has not decreased markedly, according to the commissioner, although hundreds of them will be refused because of their records during the first year of operation of the Volstead law.

Atlantic seaboard areas apparently have provided the prohibition enforcement agents with their greatest problems and it is expected that those districts will lose the largest number of liquor dealers under the plan. Mr. Kramer said the illegal traffic in liquor had been particularly menacing in the cities from Boston to the Potomac river and he indicated that the house cleaning would be thorough in communities of that section.

Great Lake cities and border points, both Canadian and Mexican, also have given trouble for the enforcement corps, according to the bureau's records, and Mr. Kramer said he planned to see that fewer permits would be granted in those regions hereafter.

The prohibition bureau was said to be giving some attention also to the sale of liquor by retail druggists. Although enforcement agents have examined records of druggists in some communities and for the most part have found little reason to revoke or cancel permits, it was indicated that in the future the druggist who strays from the regulations prescribed for retail sale will find himself unable to handle distilled spirits of any sort. Scrutiny of this class of dealers is expected to be conducted more closely the next year.

SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Second Meeting of Association Held in Columbia, Missouri

Columbia, Mo., Dec. 29.—The second meeting of the Association of American Schools and Departments of Journalism opened here today and will continue through tomorrow. Means of establishing definite standards for instruction similar to those adopted by the American Association of Law Schools and the American Association of Medical Schools, will be considered.

Ten universities with developed schools of journalism are members of the association, the list comprising Columbia University and the state universities of Missouri, Wisconsin, Oregon, Montana, Ohio, Indiana, Texas and Kansas.

Dean Walter Williams of the University of Missouri is president and Professor Willard G. Elyer of the University of Wisconsin, secretary and treasurer of the association. It was organized at Chicago in 1917, with a view to co-ordinating the work of the different schools and to establish fixed requirements for graduation and the amount and character of instruction.

Topics of the chief speakers at the meeting follow:
"Journalistic Writing in Secondary Schools and Its Relation to University Instruction in Journalism," Will H. Hayes, University of Texas.

"Relation of Schools and Departments of Journalism to Professional Organizations of Newspaper Men," Dean Walter Williams, University of Missouri.

"Standardized Requirements for Graduation for Schools and Departments of Journalism," Professor J. W. Cunliffe, Columbia University.

"The Proportion of Technical Instruction to General Courses in Schools of Journalism," Professor L. M. Flint of University of Kansas.

"Research Work in Journalism," Professor Pleyer, University of Wisconsin.

Willows, Calif., Dec. 29.—An earthquake shock of so severe a nature that the inhabitants were aroused, occurred at 2:15 this morning. No damage has been reported thus far.

CITY COUNCIL HOLDS MEETING

Samuel O'Quinn Elected City Manager—Peoples Bank Declines Exemption

At a regular meeting of city council held Tuesday evening, there were present Mayor L. D. Jennings, and Councilmen D. R. McCallum and J. A. Raffield.

The minutes of the regular meeting of December 14th were read and approved.

Mr. G. W. Shaw's letter of November 15th relative to placing a sign over the sidewalk, at the Sumter Sales company on W. Liberty Street was again taken up by council, and after some discussion, the sign was allowed to be placed, subject to the will of council. Mayor Jennings opposed, stating that he was not in favor of having any signs suspended over the sidewalks of the city.

Mr. S. O'Quinn was elected City Manager, subject to the will of council at a salary of \$250 per month. Mr. O'Quinn will take up his duties as city manager on or about January 15th, 1921.

The matter of a license for pitching balls, was taken up and after due consideration, the license was fixed by council at \$7.50 per month, with a six month minimum. Council also decided, in the case of licenses for contractors, plumbers, tinners and brick masons, to make licenses for non-resident firms double that of resident firms, as the license as it now stands is construed to mean resident firms.

The bill of Clifford and Morrissey, for one steam carburetor installed, on Indiana truck, was ordered paid, also to have more of these carburetors installed if the present one proves satisfactory.

The letter of Mr. D. James Winn in which he requested council to deed back to him the land which he had given to the city, on the lower end of West Calhoun street, was presented at this meeting. Mr. Winn's request was refused by council.

At the regular meeting of council December 14th, it was decided to allow all of the banks of the city 55 per cent tax exemption on the electric light bonds, which said banks had purchased from the city. Mayor Jennings representing the Peoples Bank, stated that his bank would not accept the 55 per cent exemption, however they would accept 8 per cent interest for their money during the actual time that their funds were invested in the city's bonds.

Mayor Jennings' letter is as follows:

City Council of the City of Sumter.
Gentlemen: This bank was informed by the city clerk that a majority of council had allowed an exemption from taxes of 55 per cent of the bonds purchased by this bank. Under the contract entered into with the city at the time of the purchase of these bonds it was provided:

"That so long as the bonds purchased under this agreement are owned and bona fide held by the party of the second part, the same shall be tax exempt to the extent of 55 per cent of par value thereof as against the shareholders of the party of the second part, and in order to make the same tax exempt as aforesaid, the party of the first part agrees that 55 per cent of the par value of the bonds purchased under this agreement and bona fide held by the party of the second part may be deducted from the assessment for taxation fixed and levied by the state tax commission against the party of the second part in each year hereafter that the party of the second part may continue to be the owner and holder of said bonds."

This bank did not hold any of said bonds on the first day of November, 1920, when the city taxes were due and collectible, and under said agreement the bank does not consider that it would be entitled to be exempted from taxes as referred to in said agreement, as this bank only owned said bonds from the first of July until sometime in October, and to take the exemption permitted by council would be collecting from the city something over 13 per cent per annum for the use of the money during the period which this bank held said bonds.

This bank, however, knows that during said period from the first of July until sometime in October money was quite tight, and that if the bank had not had its money invested in these bonds it could have obtained eight per cent discount on same, while the bonds it held only bore interest at the rate of six per cent, and that it would be fully repaid for the use of the money should the city make up to the bank the difference between 6 per cent and 8 per cent, and the bank could not have obtained legally more than 8 per cent for its money, and this bank sees no reason why it should charge the city 5 per cent bonus above the legal rate for the use of said money while it held said \$34,000 of bonds.

While the bank appreciates the position of the majority of council, still it must decline to accept a greater rate of interest than is permitted by law to be charge by a bank in this state, and especially when this extra rate of interest must of necessity be paid by the whole people out of the taxes collected; and, of course, some of these taxes are collected out of people who have to make a sacrifice in order to pay taxes, and this bank is perfectly satisfied with the city paying it the same rate of interest that the banks charge other people for money.

The Peoples Bank,
By L. D. Jennings, President.
Sumter, Dec. 28.
Council then adjourned.

Atlanta, Dec. 28.—Robert W. Tox, president of the Georgia Association of the American association, himself last night at Newnan. The suicide was due to despair over his wife's death, and no business conditions.